

## **Markup of the Nominations of Lee Goodman and Ann Ravel to be Members of the Federal Election Commission**

**September 17, 2013**

### **Statement of Chairman Charles E. Schumer**

This July, we heard testimony from two well-qualified candidates for the Federal Election Commission – Mr. Lee Goodman and Ms. Ann Ravel.

Both candidates assured me of their commitment to enforcing our campaign finance laws. Mr. Goodman committed to making the FEC functional and working for compromise. Similarly, Ms. Ravel committed to working together with the other Commissioners to assiduously enforce the laws.

I was encouraged by their words. I look forward to being impressed by their deeds.

Congress created the Federal Election Commission to administer and enforce the Federal Election Campaign Act – the law that governs the financing of federal elections.

The agency is tasked with investigating and stopping financial campaign abuses. It also ensures disclosure of legally mandated campaign finance information. And it audits campaigns and organizations to ensure compliance with our nation's laws as enacted by Congress and interpreted by the Courts.

The search for compromise on each of these functions may be difficult – but it is most certainly worth the effort.

The Commission is designed to play a critical role in our campaign finance system. It is my hope that, once confirmed, Mr. Goodman and Ms. Ravel will work hard to restore the agency to a fully-functioning independent federal watchdog for the nation's campaign finance laws.

I look forward to working with the nominees with the goal of swift confirmation by the full Senate.